

Trade G. B. v 25

A

VIEW OF THE ADVANTAGES

Arising to the
COPARTNERS OF COMPANY

OF THE

MINERAL MANUFACTURES at *Neath*,
by *Making* and *Manufacturing* COP-
PER, BRASS, LEAD, and IRON, in
their Work-houses there.

PRESENTED to the

New Partners.

By THOMAS WILLIAMS, *Secretary*; and
JOHN HOPKINS, *Accomptant*.

LONDON: Printed for H. Meere in Black-
Fryers, 1720.

VIEW OF THE ADVANTAGES

AND OF THE
CONSEQUENCES OF
THE
OF THE

MILITARY
BY
THE
OF THE



1794
LONDON
Printed by



To the Honourable
*The Copartners or Compa-
ny of the MINERAL MA-
NUFACTURES at Neath.*

Honour'd SIRS,

THE following Sheets con-
tain a Representation of
Your Work-houses, Manu-
factures, and Operations at Neath,
made by your Officers employ'd there,
by which it will appear, That no-
thing has been wanting to make this
one of the most Profitable and Benefi-
cial Undertakings in this Kingdom but

(iv)

a sufficient Stock for that Purpose, without which the best Undertaking can turn to no considerable Profit or Account ; but now your *Additional Stock* will secure the full Benefit of your Trade, and make your Rivals therein your Friends : And as you may employ the same to Advantage in all and every the several Manufactures herein after mention'd, and do not depend on the Profits of any one of them alone, you may afford to let others take a reasonable Share of the Copper and Lead Ores to be bought in this Kingdom, and yet reserve a sufficient Part thereof for your selves.

It may be also observ'd, That your Undertaking will not only be advanc'd by your *Additional Stock*, but also by the *late Act of Parliament*

(V)

ment against the unwarrantable Proceedings therein mention'd; for as that Act hath put an End to all Fictitious Undertakings, it hath of Consequence put a greater Value on Yours that is Real; and it was for the Preservation of all such Legal and National Undertakings as Yours is, That the said Law was made and provided.

Your Undertaking will also be the more esteem'd and valu'd, when you take the Advantage of a Foreign Trade, and thereby encourage Shipping and Navigation, and export Quantities of valuable Commodities, that are so much wanted Abroad, and more especially in those Countries, where the principal Return will be in Gold and Silver.

And,

(VI)

And, That you may be the better able to judge of the convenient Situation of your Work-houses, we take the Liberty to present you with a Map thereof, and beg Leave to subscribe, with all Respect,

Honoured S I R S,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servants,

Nathaniel Cureton,

Martin O Connor.



A PLAN
of the TOWN & PORT of NEATH,
in the COUNTY of
GLAMORGAN.

Being part of y^e Estate of
S^r Humphry Macknworth
Situated near y^e Bristol Channel.

By M. O'Connor

An Air Shaft,
for the Coalery

Road to Margam & London

THE

BRISTOL

CHANNEL

Breton Ferry

the Abby

Town of
NEATH

Neath Castle

Neath Bridge

RIVER

OF

A Bingstead
for Oars

Lancwitt
Church

REFERENCES to the PLAN.

- A. The great work Houses at Melin Grythan.
- B. The double Battery Mill.
- C. A single Battery Mill.
- D. A Mill for Rolling & Slitting of Iron and Brass.
- E. Ginn Houses for raising Coals.
- F. The great Pond.
- G. Melin Grythan water carried cross y^e Lands to supply y^e great Ponds.
- H. Water Courses with small Ponds for feeding the said Pond.
- I. The upper great Pond.

- K. Several Water courses brought at great expence to supply y^e upper gr. Pond.
- L. S^r Humphry Macknworth's House.
- M. The Walks made out of the Hill.
- N. The Water carried round the Hill, to the House and into the great Pond.
- O. The new Roads or Wagon ways to y^e Water side.
- P. S^t Michaels Well.
- Q. A Water Course cross the Fields.
- R. A Mill for making brass Wire.
- S. The Water forc'd from y^e Pond to y^e top of y^e Hill.



V I E W OF THE

*Advantages arising to the
Copartners or Compa-
ny of the Mineral Ma-
nufactures at Neath.*

F I R S T,



E crave leave to present
you with *A View of your
Cupulo's, Melting-Houses,
Mills, and other Work-
Houses, for making and
manufacturing Copper, Brass, Lead, and
Iron, erected at Neath; with all Conve-
niences, as followeth. That is to say,*

I. A

I. A large Cupulo or Work-house, with several Furnaces, for Making and Refining Copper from the Ore.

II. A large Work-house, with several Furnaces, for Making Lead from the Ore.

III. A large Work-house, with several Furnaces and Conveniencies, for Making and Casting Brass.

IV. A large Work-house, with several Furnaces, for Extracting Silver out of Lead.

V. A large Work-house, with several Furnaces, for Making Red-Lead.

VI. One great Water-wheel 26 Foot diameter, for working Six heavy Stamps, for stamping Ores, Lytharge, Potsherds, &c. and for blowing a great Pair of Bellows for a large Blast-Furnace; and several small Bellows, for refining Furnaces.

VII. Another large Wheel under the former, near 20 Foot diameter, and work'd with the same Water; which carries about four Pair of Mill-Stones, whereof three Pair are flat, and one on an Edge, for Grinding Lytharge, commonly call'd Lytharge of Gold, and Lytharge of Silver, in order to make Red-

Red-Lead, and also for grinding Calamy for making Brasses, Bone-Ashes for making Tests for the Refining Furnaces, and Potsherds for mixing with *Sturbridge* and other Clays, for making Bricks for the Copper, Lead, and other Furnaces.

VIII. A Smith's Shop with two Forges for several Smiths, constantly to work, to make and repair the Tools and Implements belonging to the said Work-houses.

IX. A Compting-house, with several convenient Apartments, and several Store-rooms for keeping Brasses, Copper, Lead, &c.

X. A large Court, wall'd in with several Partitions, for keeping the several sorts of Stores, &c. and likewise for the Use of the Furnaces.

XI. A large Vault, for keeping the Iron, and other valuable Stores for the Use of the said Works.

XII. Several other Store-houses, for keeping other Stores, for the Use of the said Works.

XIII. Several Dwelling-houses, adjacent to the Work-houses, for Convenience of the Workmen.

XIV. A large Lime-house, for Burning Lime, and Calcining Bones for making Bone-Ashes.

All these Work-houses, Store-houses, and Dwelling-houses, lye together in one Place, call'd Melin Crythan, within the Liberties of the Port of Neath.

XV. Several Battery-Mills, for making Brass Battery, and Brass Kettles.

XVI. A large Building, erected for making Brass Wire.

XVII. A Mill for rolling and flitting of Brass, and making Black Latten.

XVIII. Several other Work-houses for Sawd'ring the Kettles, and for Turning, Lantering, and Finishing the same.

XIX. Several Houses, for the Workmen and their Families, near the Works.

There are also several Water-courses, with large Ponds, made at great Expence.

All these Work-houses and Dwelling-houses do also lye near to one another, about a Quarter of a Mile from the
other

other Work-houses, and adjoining to the Port of *Neath* aforesaid, situate on a Navigable River on the *Bristol* Chanel.

N. B. There are artificial Waggon-ways made with Wooden Rails, like those near *Newcastle*, for the more speedy and cheap Carriage of Goods to and from the Work-houses, to the River of *Neath*.

These, Gentlemen, are the Work-houses already built at *Neath*, with all Conveniencies proper for the Workmen, and for keeping your Stores and other Goods: On which be pleas'd to observe,

OBSERVATIONS.

I. **A**LL these *Work-houses* have been above 20 Years in Building, and have from Time to Time cost considerable Sums of Money, as may easily be believ'd from the Charges of other Work-houses where there are not half so many Manufactures carried on as at *Neath*; for the *Work-houses* for *Brass* alone,

alone, have cost, in several Places, near
Twenty Thousand Pounds.

II. By Means of these Work-houses, the capital Stock rais'd will be employ'd to Profit, without any Delay or previous Expence; whereas in most other Undertakings of this Kind, a great Part of the Stock is often spent in Building.

III. The Work-houses are situated on a Navigable River near the Bristol Chanel, as aforesaid; by which Means all sorts of Copper and Lead Ores, Calamy, and other Stores, may be carried from Cornwall, Devonshire, and Somersetshire, to the Work-houses, much cheaper than in any, or most other Work-houses in Great-Britain.

IV. These Work-houses lye in the midst of Coal Mines, which is one of the great Articles of Charge in such sort of Works; where, besides the vast Expence of Coal in all the several Operations aforesaid, the very Workmen (who claim to have their Firing gratis) make it necessary to erect such Work-houses where Coal is plenty and cheap.

V. These Work-houses are situated on the Bristol Chanel, (over-against Comartin in Devonshire) in the County of Glamorgan,

Glamorgan, call'd by Cambden, the Garden of Wales ; where Provisions and Wages are cheaper than in most other Places ; and they are plac'd so near together, that 300 l. per Ann. expended in Carriages and Salaries, will go as far as 1500 l. per Ann. now does in other Places.

VI. It may be also observ'd, That no Work-houses in the Kingdom can lye more convenient for *Foreign Trade*, either in the Time of *Peace* or *War* ; whereby great Advantages may be expected, for the Reasons herein after set forth.

VII. Whereas the *Makers and Manufacturers of Copper*, employ a great Stock in their Trade in buying *Copper Ores*, and the *Makers and Manufacturers of Brass* a much greater Stock in theirs, in buying Quantity of *Copper*, here the Partners have a peculiar Advantage above all others, That one and the same Capital Stock will produce the Profit of all the said *Manufactures* : For as soon as they have laid out their Stock in buying *Copper Ores*, and have made their *Copper*, they may have the same *Copper* (without buying any other) forthwith made into *Ingot-Brass, Brass-Kettles, Black Latten,*

Latten, or Brass-Wire, in the same Work-houses; and receive the Profits of five considerable Trades and Manufactures from one Trading Stock. And the like may be observ'd of the Lead Ores, which may be made into Lead, Lytharge, and Red-Lead, and the Silver extracted out of the Lead, all with the same Stock, and in the same Work-houses. For as to the Charge of Wages in Manufacturing, that is not considerable, in Respect of the Original Stock employ'd in buying Ores and Metals.

VIII. There is another Advantage in having Work-houses for all the said Operations, from the Ore to the several Manufactures; because it enables the Company, who have several Returns of Profit from the said Capital Stock, to afford a greater Price for Copper and Lead Ores, than others that have but one Return of Profit; and consequently this Company will be secure of having the greatest Quantities of those Ores to supply their Work-houses.

IX. The Brass Works in those Places have been greatly damag'd for want of Copper fit for making Brass Kettles; for that sort of Copper which is best for

for the Plating-Mills, and make Copper Furnaces, &c. is not good for making Brass, and few know how to refine and make the Copper fit for the Brass-Kettles, and other Brass Manufactures; but here the Partners have Artists of long Standing and Experience, who can make the Copper fit for all Uses, and can refine the *worst and coarsest Copper from Barbary* at a small Charge, and *make it fit for all the said Manufactures.*

X. There is yet a farther Advantage in the Situation of these Work-houses, (which not only lye convenient for Coal, Clamy, Sturbridge Clay, and all sorts of Stores, as well as for cheap Carriage from the West of England) that they lye so near one another, that when any of the Workmen want Employ in one Manufacture, they are instructed to work in another; and *so the Partners avoid paying Play-Wages, as is usual in other Places*; and most of the Men can help to make and cast the *Rollers, Slitters, Anvils, and other Tools and Implements*, which cost dear in other Work-houses.

XI. It

XI. It must either be admitted, *That no Profit can possibly be made in any Place whatsoever, by those Manufactures; or else, That great Profit may be made at those Work-houses, since most others concern'd have own'd, That these Goods may be manufactured cheaper here than in any Works yet known, by 10 per Cent. and therefore they have endeavour'd to hinder the Proprietors from taking in Partners, or raising a great Stock, without which they knew this Undertaking cou'd never be carry'd on to the best Advantage.*



SECONDLY,

WE crave Leave to present you with a View of *Neath* Manufactures, which are as followeth:

- I. The making Copper from the Ore.
- II. The plating of Copper for Furnaces, and other Uses, in Mills for that purpose.

III. The

III. The making of Copper Bars, or Rods, for *Africa* and the *Indies*.

IV. The making Ingot-Brass from Copper and Calamy.

V. The making Brass Kettles in the Battery-Mills.

VI. The making Brass and Iron Wire.

VII. The making Black Latten for Brass Buttons, and other small Ware.

VIII. The making White and Bath Metal.

IX. The making Lead from Lead Ore.

X. The Extracting Silver out of Lead.

XI. The making Sheet-Lead.

XII. The making Pipe-Lead, and Shot.

XIII. The making Lytharge from Lead.

XIV. The making Red Lead.

XV. The making of Cast Iron for Bombs, Guns, Backs of Chimneys, Iron-Shot, and Iron-Pots.

XVI. The rolling and flitting Iron Hoops for all sorts of Barrells and Hog-heads.

XVII. The making and flitting Iron Rods for Nails.

XVIII. The making all sorts of Nails.

Most of these Manufactures are now actually made there, and Conveniencies for the rest: And *as to the Iron Manufacture, there are Mountains of Coal and Iron-Stone, near the said Work-houses, sold at very reasonable Rates.*



THIRDLY,

WE crave Leave to present you with a View of the Conveniencies there are at *Neath*, which, with a small Charge, will enable the Company to carry on *all the lesser Manufacturies of Copper, Brass, Lead, and Iron, made at Newcastle, Sheffield, or Birmingham.*

I. The same Water that carries on the above-mention'd Works and Mills, descends from the adjacent Mountains, with an easy Descent, whereby a great
Number

Number of lesser Wheels may be conveniently set up there, like to those at *Sheffield* and *Tinbern-Abbey* in *Gloucestershire*, with proper Engines for grinding, turning, and working, all sorts of Mineral Manufactures whatsoever, as *Scythes*, *Scissars*, *Swords*, *Cutlashes*, *Razors*, *Knives* and *Forks*, *Thimbles* of all sorts, *Screws*, &c. And all sorts of Cast Copper, Cast Brass, or Bath Metal, and Iron, may be made here, and also turn'd and polish'd; as all sorts of Ornaments of Brass for *Grates*, *Fire-shovels* and *Tongs*, *Knockers* and *Brass-Locks* for *Doors*, *Brass* and *Iron Pipes*, and *Chambers* for *Engines* and *Conveyance of Water*, *Rollers*, &c.

II. Here are also Conveniencies for making all sorts of Iron and Steel Manufactures, as *Anchors*, *Anvils*, *Impliments of Husbandry*, *Garden-Tools*, *Locks* and *Keys*, *Hammers*, *Buckles*; all the Tools for the *Work-houses*, *Shovels*, *Spades*, &c. These are some of those lesser Mineral Manufactures, which may be made in *Work-houses* to be erected at a small Charge at *Neath*; on which be pleas'd to observe:

OBSERVATIONS.

WHereas the Makers and Manufacturers of Copper and Brass cannot send their Goods Abroad to the best Markets, because a Ship-load of such Goods alone, will over-stock any one Market, and they are therefore necessitated to sell their Copper and Brass to the Merchants; and they, having Opportunity for that Purpose, do send small Quantities of the said Copper and Brass, with other Goods, in several Ships bound to several foreign Markets, and thereby gain much more Profit by such Goods than the original Manufacturers thereof.

II. The Partners concern'd in this Undertaking, have a peculiar Advantage above all others, not only by the convenient Situation of their Work-houses for Foreign Trade, but chiefly by the Advantage of having so many Manufactures of Copper, Brass, Lead, and Iron, in one Place, together with the other Commodities of that Country, which may be had very cheap there; so that they can freight out several Ships to foreign Markets,

Markets, with such small Parcels of the several Manufactures, Goods, and Merchandizes mention'd in this Paper, with Coal for Ballast, as will not overstock any Market; and *they may not only make double and triple Profit thereby, but also make more Returns of Profits, and quicker Voyages to France, Spain, and Portugal, than to London itself.*



FOURTHLY,



WE shall (as an Addition to the Advantages above-mention'd) *present you with a View of the several Commodities (that may be had cheap in and near Neath) which may be shipp'd to foreign Markets, and bring in very considerable Returns of Profit; and those are, Coal of all sorts, Welsh Cloth and Flannels, Fish of several sorts, Green Hides, Corn, Hats, Shoes, Stockings, pickled Oysters, Butter, and Welsh Ale. On which we observe,*

OBSER-

OBSERVATIONS.

I. **A** Small Quantity of every one of the Manufactures and Commodities above-mention'd, will carry on a great Trade to foreign Countries, and *import three times the Value of those Goods* (if sold in London or Bristol) in good Spanish or Portugal Gold, besides the respective Commodities of the Country ; which will yield a farther Profit of no mean Consideration.

II. By dealing in all these Commodities, you have *many Advantages* without any one *Disadvantage* ; for all the *Disadvantages* attending these sort of Manufactures, *singly*, are hereby prevented: As for Instance, *If you were to carry on the making of Copper only, you cou'd not get, without Difficulty, Ore sufficient to employ a large Stock.* If Brass, alone, you might often be disappointed for want of Copper, or of that which is good and fit for the Purpose, or the Price may be rais'd up-
on you, to the Prejudice of your Undertaking. All which is prevented by buying the Ore your selves, and making it into such sort of Copper as is fit for the several Uses : As
for

for Instance, *The worst Ore will serve for making Copper for Ingot-Brass, better Ore must be used for Copper fit for Brass-Wire and Black Latten, and the best Ore must be had for making Copper fit for the Brass Kettles, or for the Plating-Mills ; and by these Means one fifth Part of the Copper Ore will employ a large Stock in all these Manufactures, as wou'd in any one alone.*

III. But then, when it is consider'd that your Work-houses are all ready built, for making and manufacturing Copper, Brass, Lead, and Iron, and for extracting Silver out of Lead, &c. and that your Undertaking will not depend on any one of these Commodities, but on all ; it is evident that a lesser Trade in every one will employ a very great Trading Stock in all ; and it will not be in the Power of any one of the other Company's, Trading in these Commodities, to do you any Prejudice ; because you can go to the best Markets Abroad, and have double, if not triple, the Profit they can have at Home.

IV. And we must farther observe, That if you please to go on to the lesser Manufactures above-mention'd, as you may at much cheaper Rates than any other,

ther, because you have the Materials of your own making, ready at Hand, without any Charge, Freight, or Carriage, you will still have less Dependance on Quantities of any one of the Materials to employ your Stock, and yet your Stock will be employ'd to much greater Profit; because all the small Wares of Copper, Brass, Lead, or Iron, yield a much greater Price than any of those Commodities in Gross.

V. The Vent of the Commodities above-mention'd is so very great, that very considerable Quantities of Copper, Ingot-Brass, Brass-Battery, Black Latten, Kettles, Wire, &c. are imported every Year, and yet the Demand hath not hitherto been near answer'd; and the Bill, formerly in Parliament, for laying a farther Duty on these Commodities from Abroad, was rejected, after several Debates; for no other Reasons, but because there was not enough made in Great Britain to supply the Manufacturers thereof into small Ware. And as to Lead, the Market was never yet overstock'd with that Commodity, and no Person will be afraid of having too much Silver extracted out of it.

VI. There is an Agreement made with the chief Workmen, to work by Bargain,

Bargain, and thereby, with a Stock of 40,000 l. it is propos'd to make an Annual Profit of 10,000 l. or more, which will be at the Rate of 25 l. per Cent. and an Original Stock of 100 l. may at that Rate be worth 500 l. but it is hop'd that the ill Effects of running Stocks too high, will be a Means to keep this Stock within such a Compass, that there may be always more Buyers than Sellers, and that the Officers below may be able to give Content to all their Masters above, by making good Dividends for their Money ; and if the Undertaking, when brought to a Method of working, with so great a Stock, shall happen to answer more than is hereby propos'd, the Officers hope they shall partake of the Advantage of that good Management, and have their Salaries advanc'd in Proportion thereto.

VII. It may be farther observ'd, that in no Undertaking yet known, any real Security has been given for any Profits at all ; but in this the New Partners will have a very great and substantial Security for receiving Six per Cent for their Money ; because the Proprietors of the Work-houses, and their old Partners,

D

are

are to have no Rent, or other Consideration for their Work-houses, and all Houses and Conveniencies thereto belonging (which have Cost, or are worth to be sold at this Day, according to the Rate that other inferior Work-houses have been lately dispos'd of, the best part of 50,000 l.) but out of the remaining Profits, after Payment of Six per Cent to the New Partners ; which is, in truth, not only a Security for Six per Cent, but also for a great deal more, in order to make up, from one Moiety of the Overplus, a reasonable Consideration, for all the said Work-houses, and Conveniencies thereto belonging. And this naturally leads us to another Consideration of very great Consequence to the New Partners, and that is, That the Persons who should have the greatest Experience, and should be most capable to carry on such an Undertaking, and who live on the Spot, are tied down by Interest, for them and their Heirs for ever, to endeavour to carry it on to the utmost Advantage.

VIII. There is no Computation of the Profits which will arise from making malleable Iron with Pit-Coal, because the Patent has not yet pass'd the Great-Seal ; but his Majesty has been graciously pleas'd

to grant his Royal Warrant for that purpose under his Sign Manual ; and when that Invention shall be secur'd and brought to Perfection, no Person can say how great the additional Profits will be ; but, in all Probability, they must be very considerable, because Great Britain will thereby become the Mart of Iron for all the World, there being no Coal in Sweden or Spain, and that sort of Fuel is cheaper than Wood in Sweden, tho' it were to cost nothing, by reason of the Cutting, Chord-ing, Charking, and Carriage thereof to the Work-houses. Whereas in Great Britain the Coal and Iron-Stone lye together, and Furnaces may be built near to both ; by all which it may appear, that this Undertaking will every Way conduce to the Publick Good ; for the Brass Manufactures will consume the Under-Wood, and the making Iron with Coal will be a Means to save the young Timber (now ready to be destroy'd by the Iron Works) for the Use of the Royal Navy, which is the Bulwark of Great Britain, and will not only save several Hundred Thousand Pounds, exported every Year to buy Foreign Iron, but also be a Means, together with the Copper and Brass Manufactures, to import great

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great Quantities of Bullion in lieu of Copper, Brass, and Iron, exported to Foreign Countries.



And LASTLY,

WE crave Leave to present you with a *View of some of the Operations made at Neath, and with a Certificate of the Workmen who were discharg'd a Year ago, for want of a sufficient Stock; and with an old Affidavit of our own, made for the Satisfaction of the Company, all their Officers being oblig'd, every Year, (if requir'd) to justify their Accounts and Proceedings on Oath.*

The Certificate of the Workmen is as followeth, viz.

WE whose Names are hereunto subscrib'd, late *Battery-Men* in the *Mills of Sir Humphry Mackworth at Neath in the County of Glamorgan, for making Brass Kettles, do hereby certify, that the said Mills perform very
well,*

well, and are conveniently situated,
 near to Coal, and a good Sea-port for
 Trade; and there is *Water sufficient for*
working three Overshot Mills one under
another, all the Year round, without In-
terruption, which is frequent in Under-
shot Wheels by Floods and Frosts. And
 that there is another convenient Place
 on his Estate in that Neighbourhood
 for erecting *Four or more Battery-Mills*
more. And also that the said Sir Hum-
 phry Mackworth and Partners have *large*
Buildings in Neath aforesaid, for making
of Copper and Brass. And that their
Workmen are skillful in making the same
fit for the Battery and Wire-Mills, and
have, in divers Respects, great Advan-
tages for making and manufacturing
Copper, Brass, Lead, and Iron, cheaper
than in any other Works yet known. And
 as soon as the said Sir Humphrey and Part-
 ners shall have rais'd a Stock sufficient
 to carry on the said Undertaking, (which
 is all that is wanting in our Judgments
 to make very considerable Profits) we
 shall be ready at any time (when free
 of other Engagements) to return to
 the said Battery-Mills, on the same
 Terms and Agreement as we were employ'd
 there

' *there before.* Given under our Hands
' this Seventh Day of July, An. Dom.
' 1719.

Witness hereunto

Tho. Williams.

John Williams.

William Smith.

Thomas Clarke.

Robert Howard.

John Shaw.

Richard Walker.

William Forster.

Thomas Aman.

*The Affidavit of Thomas Williams and
John Hopkins, Gentlemen.*

' **T** *Thomas Williams and John Hop*
' *kins, both of Neath in the*
' *County of Glamorgan, Gentlemen,*
' *make Oath, That the several Accounts,*
' *hereunto annex'd, of the Charges of*
' *making Copper, Ingot-Brass, Brass-Ket-*
' *tles, and Black-Latten, have been truly*
' *copy'd from the original Accounts there-*
' *of; and that all the Costs and Charges,*
' *both in Money and Materials, which*
' *have been expended in making the*
' *several Quantities of Copper and*
' *Brass, are therein contain'd; and they*
' *verily believe, that the like Opera-*
' *tions*

tions may be perform'd at the same,
or less Cost and Charge.

Sworn this present
sixth Day of August,
Anno Dom. 1719.
before me

Thomas Williams,
John Hopkins.

Richard Thomas,
Portreeve of Neath.

Note, The Accounts after-mention'd
are annex'd to the said Affidavit, and
may be seen at the Company's House
in *Beaufort Buildings*; but it is not
thought proper to set forth Accounts
of that Nature in Print; but the Con-
clusion of the several Accounts are as
followeth.

	l.	s.	d.
By the 1st Acc ^t gain'd in ten Weeks time, <i>per Cent.</i>	27	13	8
By the 2d Acc ^t gain'd in six Weeks and two Days, <i>per Cent.</i>	15	14	2
By the 3d Acc ^t gain'd in four Months and three Days <i>per Cent.</i>	50	3	4½
By the 4th Acc ^t gain'd in eleven Weeks and four Days, <i>per Cent.</i>	16	4	10½

It

It is not material what was the total Sum expended, because the Profits are cast up upon every 100*l.* Stock, and the like Gain was made in all other Operations; but there is always some Difference in the Profits, which arises by the Difference of Ores.

Note, The making so great a Gain, is owing to the Situation and Conveniencies of so many Work-houses lying together in a cheap Country, in the midst of Coal-Mines, near a navigable River on the Bristol Channel, as aforesaid, and to the carrying on so many profitable Trades with one capital trading Stock; and if so great Gain may be made in so short Space of Time, it is easy to compute how much more Profit may be made in the Year.

General OBSERVATIONS.

I. **B**Y the View of all these Advantages, which cannot be had in any other Place in *Great Britain*, or, at least, not without a great Expence of Money and Time, we humbly conceive it may appear, to all the Partners concern'd in this Undertaking, that by
raising

raising a competent Stock to carry on all these Manufactures, they will not only do good to themselves, but to the Publick, by employing the Poor, encouraging Trade and Navigation, and importing more Bullion into this Kingdom.

II. And lastly, Whereas it is notorious, that several Undertakings or Projects of different Kinds, have, of late, been contriv'd and set on Foot, which manifestly tend to the common Grievance, Prejudice, and Inconvenience of great Numbers of his Majesty's Subjects, in their Trade and Commerce, and thereby many unwary Persons have been drawn in, to their Loss and Prejudice: The new Partners, by comparing those with their own, may easily distinguish, and take Care to avoid any of those Projects, or pretended Undertakings, that have no real or solid Foundation.

*ERRATA, Page 8, Line 26, instead of those read otherd
Page 9, Line 16, instead of Clamy read Calamy. Page 10,
Line 5, instead of those read these.*

P O S T S C R I P T.

By Nathaniel Cureton, and Martin
O'Connor, Gentlemen.

AS the Officers at *Neath* have given Accounts of the Work-houses, Manufactures, and Operations below, with their Observations thereupon; so it may be some Satisfaction to the *New Partners*, to know the *Constitution and Method establish'd for managing and carrying on this Undertaking*, of which we therefore crave Leave to give an *abstract*, as followeth.

First, This Undertaking hath been settled and establish'd by *Articles of Partnership*, dated the 1st Day of May 1713, and practis'd ever since; and *Neath Manufactures* are very well known in *London, Bristol*, and most of the Towns in *England*, especially in the West Part thereof.

By the 1st Clause in these Articles, the *Partnership is establish'd for a Term of Ninety nine Years*, and the Undertaking is agreed to be carry'd on with a Joint-Stock,

Stock, by the Name of the *Company of the Mineral Manufactures at Neath*.

2d Clause is to prevent Survivorship.

3d Clause contains a Grant of the Work-houses, with divers Conveniencies for the Use of the Partners, for the Term of Ninety Nine Years.

4th Clause relates to other collateral Privileges, to be enjoy'd by the Partners and their Workmen, upon the Estate of the Proprietors adjacent thereto.

5th Clause relates to the Repairs of the Work-houses, whereof the Walls and Roof to be repair'd by the Lessors, and all the rest by the Lessees.

6th Clause contains a Covenant of the Proprietors to supply the Company with Coal, deliver'd at the Work-houses for 22 s. per Wey, which contains five Tons and a Half of Coal.

7th Clause establish'd a Transfer-Book for transferring Stock.

8th Clause taking Notice, That the Work-houses are built by Sir *Humphrey Mackworth*, on his own Estate adjoining to his Mansion-House, gives him therefore Power, during his Life, and after his Decease his Executors, with Consent of the Company, or major

Part of them, to nominate all the Officers; but they are oblig'd thereby to give Security, to observe the Instructions of the Partners, or major Part of them, and to justify their Accounts and Proceedings on Oath, and they are to be displac'd on any Default.

The Accomptant is also oblig'd every Year to bring all the Accounts, relating to the said Trade and Undertaking, to a Ballance, to the 25th Day of *March* in every Year, and to make up an Account of Interest at the Rate of *6l. per Cent. per Ann.* for the Stock or Money advanc'd, or to be advanc'd, and paid to the Cashier-General of the said Company, for the Purposes aforesaid, and place the same to the Credit of the said Partners respectively; and that the Interest so charg'd, is to be paid every Year to the said Partners, in Proportion to their respective Stocks in the said Undertaking.

9th Clause enacts, That all Losses or bad Debts (if any happen) shall be sustain'd by the Partners in common, in Proportion to their Stock.

10th Clause gives Liberty to each Partner to insure his own particular Share

Share of any Cargo or Ship if he thinks fit.

11th Clause declares a Dividend within two Months after the Year is expir'd.

12th Clause declares one Moiety of the Dividend, after 6 l. per Cent. to the New Partners, and the other Moiety to the Proprietors of the Work-houses, and old Partners therein, in Proportion to their respective Stocks.

13th Clause, That all Charges be born in equal Proportion, by the Old and New Partners.

14th Clause grants Sir H. Mackworth Power, during Life, to enlarge the Capital Trading Stock, by taking in more Partners for that Purpose.

15th Clause grants to the Proprietors of the Work-houses, instead of Fines on Admission, 600 l. Stock.

16th Clause grants Power to the Company to appoint Auditors every Year, to audit all the Accounts.

17th Clause directs, That the Undertaking shall be carry'd on by the Officers, according to the Instructions of the Company in a general Meeting, or major Part of them.

18th Clause impowers the Company, or the major Part of them, to make farther Agrees-

Agreements, Rules, and Directions, for carrying on the Undertaking.

19th Clause was made to prevent any Disputes at Law, and that all Differences (if any ever shou'd happen) might be referr'd to Arbitrators, indifferently chosen by the contending Parties.

20th Clause contains a *Covenant of the Proprietor of the Work-houses, and all his Children, for quiet Enjoyment of the Work-houses.*

21st Clause directs the said Articles to be enroll'd in Chancery, at the common Expence, if the Company think fit.

Since the Execution of these Articles, there have been divers Orders, Rules, and Directions made by the Partners in a general Meeting, for the Management and carrying on this Undertaking to the best Advantage.

An Abstract of which is as follows,

I. **T**hat no Partner shall have a Vote in a general Meeting, but he that hath a Stock of 500 l. in his own Right.

II. That every Partner shall have one Vote for every 500 l. Stock.

III. That

III. That the Officers Salaries in *London, Wales, Cornwall, &c.* may be encreas'd, not exceeding 300 *l. per Annum* more.

IV. That Sir *Humphrey Mackworth* be desir'd and impower'd to carry on this Undertaking, for the Good of the Partners, till farther Orders of the Company.

V. That any Person that holds Stock in trust, may execute such a Declaration of Trust, and the Officers may make such Entries, and give such Certificates as are mention'd at large in the said Order.

VI. That the Argeement made with the chief Workmen for working by Bargain, and thereby reducing the Profits to a greater certainty, be confirm'd.

VII. That an Inventory be made of the Stores and Tools at *Neath*, and that the same be apprais'd on Oath, and the Value thereof paid or allow'd to the Right Owner.

VIII. That all Coal and Iron-Stone be furnish'd by the Proprietors of the Work-houses, at reasonable Rates therein mention'd, for the Use of the Company.

IX. That all new Buildings in the County of *Glamorgan*, for the Use of the Company, shall be erected at the Company's Charge.

X. That

X. That Sir *Humphrey Mackworth* be desir'd to act as Cashier-General to this Company, till some other Able and Responsible Person shall be appointed.

XI. That the Cash and Stock of this Company be kept in the Bank of *England*, or some in the Bank, and some in the Hands of Goldsmiths, as shall be thought fit.

XII. That any Sum not exceeding 2000 l. at any one Time, may be deposited in *Cornwall*, or *Devon*, for buying Copper and Lead Ores, or other Mines, Metals, or Materials, for the Use of the Company.

XIII. That the Ships and Cargo belonging to the Company, may be from Time to Time insur'd at the common Expence.

XIV. That any *Five or more Partners*, having each 500 l. Stock, shall, and may be elected at a general Meeting, and may meet every Tuesday Morning at 10 a-clock at the Publick Office, to give the necessary Orders about the Company's Affairs.

XV. That no Officer or Officers of this Company, shall buy or sell Stock, or take any Fees or Perquisites, besides his or their Salary, or Salaries, on pain of forfeiting their Office.

F I N I S.